

REMARKS

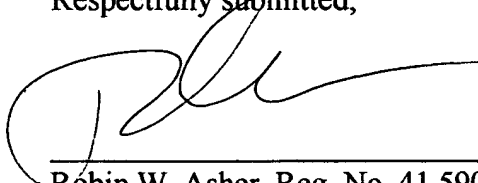
Claim 1 remains in the application and is in independent form. Claims 2-13 have been cancelled.

Claims 1 and 12 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,671,573 to Nemoto et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,110,195 to Schmutz et al. However, the Examiner has indicated that claim 13 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In response, Applicant has amended independent claim 1 to include all of the limitations of claim 12 and allowable claim 13.

Accordingly, it is believed that the application is in condition for more favorable consideration and Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,



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